

# Bavarian News

Vol 3. Nr. 1

Grafenwoehr, Hohenfels and Vilseck

January 10, 2007

## QUALITY OF LIFE

# AFTB celebrates 12 years in Army

**USAG  
Grafenwoehr  
Commander  
Col. Boyle  
helps AFTB  
celebrate its  
12-year  
relationship  
with the U.S.  
Army last  
month at the  
Vilseck PX.**



Story and photo by JODI WARD

Staff writer

Army Family Team Building - a volunteer program conceived and developed by Army families for Army families - celebrated its twelfth year of service last month at the Vileck Post Exchange.

In addition to cake, AFTB volunteers handed out information on the program's various courses.

Conceived during Operation Desert Storm, AFTB was the brainchild of a group of senior Army spouses who had just been through a deployment

and wanted to make deployments easier for other families.

These women sought the help of then commander of the Training and Doctrine Command Gen. Tommy Franks to see what could be done to educate spouses on deployment readiness and other aspects of military life.

AFTB was officially implemented on Dec. 16, 1994.

For 12 years now, AFTB has been an integral part of the military community, teaching more than 75,000 students (family members and Soldiers) Army knowledge, skills and

behaviors designed to prepare Army families for a happy and successful military life.

"Someone did a good job 12 years ago when they started this program," said self-proclaimed "huge fan" and former AFTB program instructor Garrison Grafenwoehr Commander Col. Brian Boyle.

"This is such an important program," said Boyle. "I can only imagine how frightening the military community can be for a new spouse, especially being stationed so far from home. Army Family Team Building

See AFTB Page 10

## TRAINING

# Poland's 18<sup>th</sup> Airborne train at JMRC

*Unit prepping for country's first-ever deployment to Afghanistan*

by Spc. ALEX GODINEZ

Special to the Bavarian News

Poland's 18th Airborne Brigade arrived at the Hohenfels Joint Multinational Readiness Center in early December to conduct two intensive weeks of mission readiness training.

The training is in preparation for the country's first ever deployment to Afghanistan, where the 18<sup>th</sup> Airborne will participate for seven months in a NATO-led International Security Assistance Force mission in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Formed just two weeks prior to arrival, the battalion was composed of three companies that were integrated from several posts in Poland. The brigade is comprised of special forces, airborne infantry, mechanized infantry, engineers and snipers. The JMRC's varied terrain help reinforce standards of procedures the Polish Army may actually face in Afghanistan.

"They were focused primarily on scenarios involving raids, cordon, search and attack, and combat patrol missions," said Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class Brian Albertson, a Warhog observer-controller. During the cordon and search mission urban operations training, a target was sought at company level with aerial support.

Two units create an inner and outer cordon to prevent unwanted traffic to and from the site, while a third unit operates as the search team who then executes the mission. Search and attack missions were aimed at catching enemy forces, but in terrains other than urban settings. During this type of operations the Observer-Controllers were able to see how the Polish Army worked on its own.

"They were not given any direction from us on how to execute the mission. They were required to come up with their own method of attack, and to execute on their own," stated Albertson.

Poland, at one time the largest and most populous satellite state of the former U.S.S.R., entered NATO in 1999 and the European Union in 2004. In September 2003, 2,400 Polish troops deployed to South-Central Iraq to assist in the war.



photo by Spc. Lasha Harden

**Polish soldiers provide medical treatment for villager during cordon and search exercise at Hohenfels' JMRC.**

Asked about the quality of the 18th Airborne Brigade's effort, Albertson said "they are a well disciplined unit, they have good leadership, and they are focused on their mission."

"The assessment from trainers on the ground has been that the Polish troops are very aggressive and well-trained," said Gen. David McKiernan, USAREUR commander, during a Dec. 14 press

conference at JMRC, an Army training center commonly used by coalition forces.



**Polish troops spot a possible terrorist cell during cordon and search training.**

photo by Spc. Matthew Freire



Nathalie French helps a customer at the Kaiserslautern VAT Office Dec. 6.

# Fuel card system slated to replace coupons in Germany by fiscal 2008

by JACK GILLUND

IMCOM-Europe Public Affairs

The Army and Air Force Exchange Service, in cooperation with officials from IMCOM-Europe and USAREUR, recently announced that it is working with the German government to replace fuel coupons with a fuel-card system in fiscal year 2008.

"The German Treasury Department requested that the U.S. Forces replace the current paper-based fuel coupon system to decrease the volume of tax fraud," said Lt. Col. Carol McKinney, U.S. Army Europe provost marshal chief of law enforcement.

The fuel-purchase program was discussed with U.S. military commanders in Germany last week

during the U.S. Army European Command's Quality of Life Conference in Garmisch, Germany. AAFES officials explained how fuel cards will make purchasing and ration control of tax-and duty-free fuel at ESSO and AAFES gas stations easier, faster and more convenient.

"AAFES has coordinated the fuel-card project with U.S. Forces' key staff

agencies to ensure that the design complies with the status of forces agreement and the requirements of the German Treasury Department," said Wess Bryan, Fuel Card Program manager for AAFES.

"During this process, customer input from authorized U.S. forces personnel has helped us make sure that the fuel card best supports

customer needs."

The fuel card will resemble a prepaid debit card that authorized customers will be able to use for fuel at ESSO and AAFES gas stations throughout Germany, Bryan said. Fuel cards will be issued for use only with a specific vehicle. A maximum of three fuel cards will be issued for a vehicle.

See CARDS Page 10

# Q&A

**What was your most significant event of 2006?**



**Pfc. John Riffle**  
"I moved to Germany."



**Cindy Flack**  
"My husband leaving for Iraq was the most significant event."



**Pfc. Leroy McCarty**  
"I was in the Navy last year, then joined the Army on May 18."



**Spc. Shasta Christiansen**  
"I was deployed to Iraq."



**Pfc. Alex Hamilton**  
"Well, I got married Feb. 22, moved to Germany a couple months later, and my child - Gabriella - was born in March."



**Spc. Aundrea Anderson**  
"When all the Strykers got here, that was significant because they gave me more work to do."



**Pvt. Tabitha Dart**  
"I joined the Army last year, and it was a decision that I'd never change."



**Jill Hardmin**  
"I was married within two months of meeting my husband. That changed my whole life!"

## Opinion & Editorial

### Command Message

# New year brings new challenges, programs, ways of doing business

*Continuing on with the methodology of my previous column, this column talks about what we can expect in 2007.*

*Before I start, however, congratulations to Tyler Hockensmith for making the Grafenwoehr Elementary School A and B honor role. For some reason his name was left off the list.*

**A**s we might have expected, we will begin the year under a continuing budget resolution. For everyone this means that we will have to continue with the budgeting practices we used last year.

We will stretch the time between contracts, slow down hiring processes, and carefully screen all new work before execution.

It looks like this will continue to be the way we do business at least as long as the Global War on Terrorism continues. Along with this belt tightening, we also will either pilot or execute several new programs this year.

#### The Year of Manpower

Installation Management Command has directed 2007 to be the Year of Manpower. In Europe this means we will take advantage of the "downsizing" of closing garrisons and fix our manning tables. This year we plan to fix

our authorizations and work to reduce our temporary and term employees by moving them (if able) into authorized slots. Once the funding streams are stable in the coming years, we will be able to hire these necessary personnel.

#### Personnel Services Delivery Redesign

PSDR essentially means that the Personnel Service Battalions, or PSBs, are going away and tactical brigade and battalions S1 offices will be enhanced to provide additional personnel services to the military members in their organization.

The garrison will pick up all other PSB tasks to include those tasks for units separated from their parent battalion. As this evolves, we will continue to develop techniques to better serve our community.

#### National Security Personnel System

The entire General Service civilian workforce will implement a new evaluation system this year called NSPS. Designed to reward the work force for current successes instead of tying pay to tenure, this new system causes some concern for our civilian workforce.

As veterans of the evolving NCOER and OER, the military component of our workforce understands these concerns and together will work with them to implement the new evaluation and pay system.

#### Common Levels of Support



CLS for IMCOM is a program designed to capture the costs of running a garrison and ensure all garrisons are funded and manned at the same level.

In the past year, the senior levels of IMCOM have had success explaining our needs to Congress and obtaining funds. We will expand this program this year to all 535 CLS "funding bins" and work diligently to secure needed funds.

#### Lean 6 Sigma

This is a program adopted by the Army to make organizations more efficient.

The garrison has several projects in the infant stage and will continue to work on them in the coming year. Again, the intent is to make us more efficient and provide better service to the community.

In conclusion, 2007 looks a lot like 2006 with more acronyms and programs vying for our time and resources. I continue to be amazed at the talent and dedication of the garrison staff and look forward to leading and working with them in the coming year.

Together we continue to strive to make this entire community the best place to live and serve in Germany.

**Col. Brian T. Boyle**  
**Commander, U.S. Army**  
**Garrison Grafenwoehr**

# There is simply no simple solution for Iraq



**JACKIE ECKHART**  
*On the Homefront*

I am thought the Cold War was happening in Siberia or Alaska. JB believed that Ronald Reagan was Ronald McDonald's brother, and that made Reagan more impressive.

Ashley believed that Abraham Lincoln had a tail, because every time they flipped a coin, someone would call, "Heads or tails?" If Lincoln's head was on one side, surely the picture on the other side was his tail.

These people aren't certifiable. Instead, they are folks from different countries who posted their stories on [www.Iusedtobelieve.com](http://www.Iusedtobelieve.com). It's the repository for all those funny and bizarre errors in thinking that you had as a child. It's a place for all those answers you, and you alone, believed.

While there are plenty of used-to-believes on the site about God and food and bodily functions, errors in thinking about politics were especially common.

One woman wrote, "I was very little when President Nixon's Watergate scandal happened. My father sat me in front of the television and said, 'Darling, this is history; you need to watch. Our president has been very bad, and he's going to get impeached.' I was about three, so I thought that they were

going to lock Nixon up in a giant peach, and I got very upset. I had heard about Peter-Peter Pumpkin Eater's wife, and I didn't think locking people up in vegetables was nice."

That sounded all too familiar. Except, I remember thinking that people were going to throw rotten peaches at Nixon. I was disappointed when he got on that helicopter and not one peach was thrown.

Lately, I've been wondering if the Web site would accept some of the things I used to believe — not as a child but as an adult.

I might post that I used to believe that the good guys would always win the war. Or at least the guys with the biggest army would win a war. That's how it worked in Risk.

I used to believe wars ended on a single day with ticker-tape parades and crowds gathered in churches and sailors kissing white-stocked nurses in Times Square.

I used to believe we'd never have a war again. I don't believe any of those things anymore. I wish I could. Instead, I read about Henry Kissinger saying military victory is no longer possible in Iraq. I read about Democrats calling for troop withdrawal in the next five months.

I read about John McCain calling for even more troops to go into the region. Despite the terrible strain on the military, McCain says there is only one thing worse, and that is defeat. I read that stuff and want to believe that the quickest, easiest answer is the best. I

**"Even Kissinger cautioned against a rapid withdrawal of coalition troops as destabilizing to the region."**

want to believe it blindly, naively, completely — the way I used to believe that the president was the smartest, richest man in the whole world.

Instead, I have to face the fact that I don't tolerate ambiguity now any better than I did when I was 8 years old. But I must. We all must have a little more tolerance for the ambiguous.

Because, in the physical world, we don't get magical answers just because we want them. Instead, we cobble together an answer that looks like it will be the least wrong in the long run. We guess at what policy is least likely to fail on a colossal level.

While I'd like every single member of our armed forces to be home by the Fourth of July, that sounds too much like a magical answer to me — too impulsive. Even Kissinger cautioned against a rapid withdrawal of coalition troops as destabilizing to the region.

I hesitate over sending more troops to Iraq. I see the strain military families have been bearing for a long time. But I am making myself lean toward McCain's solution, because it seems to flatly face that this is a complicated situation that requires a complicated and painful answer.

I hate that. I hate not being sure of anything except the idea that someday there is sure to be a Web site devoted to all the not-so-funny and bizarre things we used to believe about the war in Iraq.

*A military wife for 19 years, Jacey Eckhart is a syndicated columnist from CinCHouse.com and author of "The Homefront Club."*

## Presidential Statement on Saddam Hussein's Execution

*The following statement was released by President Bush Dec. 30: Today, Saddam Hussein was executed after receiving a fair trial — the kind of justice he denied the victims of his brutal regime.*

Fair trials were unimaginable under Saddam Hussein's tyrannical rule. It is a testament to the Iraqi people's resolve to move forward after decades of

oppression that, despite his terrible crimes against his own people, Saddam Hussein received a fair trial.

This would not have been possible without the Iraqi people's determination to create a society governed by the rule of law.

Saddam Hussein's execution comes at the end of a difficult year for the Iraqi people and for our

troops. Bringing Saddam Hussein to justice will not end the violence in Iraq, but it is an important milestone on Iraq's course to becoming a democracy that can govern, sustain, and defend itself, and be an ally in the War on Terror.

We are reminded today of how far the Iraqi people have come since the end of Saddam Hussein's rule — and that the progress they

have made would not have been possible without the continued service and sacrifice of our men and women in uniform.

Many difficult choices and further sacrifices lie ahead.

Yet the safety and security of the American people require that we not relent in ensuring that Iraq's young democracy continues to progress.



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# Co. D, 1-4 Inf. conducts CCTT training

by 2nd Lt. ANTHONY WILLIAMS

*Special to the Bavarian News*

"Gunner, Coax, Troops!"

"Tanks, moving north 2500 meters, in the open!"

If you were anywhere close to the 1-4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion motor pool during the first two weeks in December, those are just a few of the tank commands you may have heard.

During that time, Company D, 1-4<sup>th</sup> Infantry conducted high tech training in the mobile Close Combat Tactical Trainer. The simulators, which are located in the 1-4 motor pool, consist of 11 trailers.

Two trailers generate the power needed to run the system, and three others monitored the missions. One trailer contains an exact mockup of two M1A1 tank interiors and can train two full tank crews of eight personnel.

The briefing trailer contains four large video screens and allows the platoons to receive after action reviews on their missions.

The inside of the tank simulators are extremely accurate with all of the

controls placed exactly as they are in a real tank, including a hydraulic ammunition door. Even though the inside looks like an American tank, when Soldiers look outside of their viewing screens, they see T-80 Russian tanks in keeping with 1-4's OPFOR spirit.

The training took place on the virtual landscapes of Hohenfels Training Area and Baghdad, Iraq. The CCTT can "send" tank crews to almost any part of the world, allowing Soldiers to operate in different environments.

During the first week of training, platoon leaders and their tank commanders worked on and improved all aspects of their tank skills. The CCTT allowed the platoons to move in formations and conduct tank drills without freezing in the German winter or using expensive maintenance parts.

Tank commanders worked on reporting, mounted land navigation skills, and calling for indirect fire. These three skills are essential to accomplishing a tank platoon's mission.

Every platoon was put to the test, forcing the platoon leader and his tank commanders to adapt to a changing enemy and operate under stress.

The second week of training started with platoons conducting tank-on-tank missions for bragging rights within the company. Every platoon had their moments of glory during the battles, no matter the outcome.

Also during the second week, Co. D "deployed" to Iraq to conduct counter insurgency missions.

During the simulated training, the platoons found themselves operating on a main supply route near Baghdad's green zone, ensuring that the route was clear for coalition forces.

Once each platoon had cleared the route, they provided security for a convoy moving through a hostile area and received a follow-on mission to cordon a downed chopper.

The tank commanders were faced with civilians on the battlefield, RPG teams, improvised explosive devices, and vehicle born improvised explosive devices. The platoons reacted to these different situations as if they were



*photo by Brian West*

**Co. D, 1-4 Infantry Soldiers receive an after action review in the Close Combat Tactical Trainer video review trailer at Hohenfels.**

actually in Iraq and learned many real-world lessons on escalation of force and use of the ROE.

Being the only tank company within the 100<sup>th</sup> Area Support Group footprint and the only armor company

in 1-4 Infantry, the Dragons relished the rare opportunity to conduct training within their MOS.

The mobile CCTT enabled Co. D to better hone their war fighting skills in myriad environments and situations.

## Santa makes special visit to Hohenfels Library



*Courtesy photo*

Community youth made ornaments during a Dec. 6 holiday decorating party.

by KATE NICHOLS

*Special to the Bavarian News*

Santa came early to Hohenfels this year with a visit to the Community Activity Center Dec. 16 for the Hohenfels Library "Pictures with Santa" event.

The event began at noon and ended at 3 p.m. with more than 150 community members taking a photo with the jolly man in red.

Children and adults of all ages climbed upon Santa's lap and listed their Christmas wishes.

"It was nice to see the kids so excited to see Santa Claus," observed Marina Junior, a library staff member.

Some teens, like community member Charlotte Hatch, asked for cars and expensive toys; many children asked for the latest Elmo or Dora doll.

Still others asked for the safe return of their family members downrange and the strength to enjoy Christmas without them.

One thing was universal—the jolly man in red listened intently to all and promised that he would do his best to bring them their Christmas wishes.

When asked about the community's response to the event, Mrs. Claus, played by Carolin Schrag, commented, "I think the community was happy that (the library) did this for them. It was a little piece of home."

The library also spread the Christmas spirit Dec. 6 when they hosted a holiday decorating party.

During this event, community members were invited to make an ornament to decorate the library's holiday tree.

More than 50 participants, including Hohenfels' Girl Scout Troop 188, came to the library and glued, colored, or painted their unique works of art.

"Many new artists were discovered," said Violetta Grant, the children's program coordinator for the library.

"I was totally amazed by the children's artistic abilities. Even the little children created great art," she said.

The library plans to offer many other exciting and enjoyable programs in 2007.

For more information, contact the library staff.

## Professionals! Resolve to make a difference!

Carolyn Beiter, the federal Women's Program manager for the Grafenwoehr Garrison is gauging the interest in a private organization which would support and further women's employment issues.

The goal would be to start a chapter of the Federally Employed Women, but first a private organization under NAF needs to be established to receive future membership dues.

We will need those with expertise in the start up months to be part of an interim board:

- \* President
- \* Private Organization Expert (this would be an on-post private organization subject to NAF regulation)
- \* Recorder
- \* Treasurer (would work closely with the PO Expert above)

Future events and programs can be fun and also educational. (speakers, workshops, mentorship, and networking)

Call Carolyn Beiter at DSN 475-8805 or e-mail [carolyn.beiter@us.army.mil](mailto:carolyn.beiter@us.army.mil) to make a difference in women's professional lives in the coming years.

## DoD announces installation realignment in Germany

*DEB, other sites to be returned by FY07*

*USAREUR news release*

Department of Defense announced Dec. 14 that various Digital European Backbone tower-based transmission sites and other small facilities in Germany, determined to be excess, will be returned to host nation officials in FY07.

These returns reflect the successful transition from DEB towers to a fiber optic network of information transmission that eliminates the need for the DEB towers.

Other small sites identified as excess to USAREUR's needs are no longer required because of ongoing transformation and consolidation efforts.

There are no military positions assigned to these sites.

Civilian personnel associated with these installations are one U.S. and five local national civilian employees assigned to the Installation Management Command-Europe Real Estate Field Office at Darby Kaserne in Nuernberg.

As a result of the kaserne's closure, the field office will be relocated to a new site which has yet to be determined.

One U.S. civilian and one local national civilian are also assigned to the Hohe Warte Local Training Area and will be affected by this announcement.

Every effort will be made to place employees affected by transformation in Europe into continuing positions.

The installations are identified as:

### **DEB sites**

Melibokus Radio Relay Station, Darmstadt  
Koenigstuhl Radio Relay Station, Heidelberg area

Stocksberg Communication Station, Heidelberg area

Bonstetten Radio Relay Facility, Stuttgart area

Friolzheim Communication Facility, Stuttgart area

Hohenstadt Radio Relay Station, Stuttgart area

Brandhof Radio Relay Site, Ansbach area

Reinwarzhofen Radio Relay Facility, Ansbach area

Heidenheim Radio Relay Site, Ansbach area

### **Other sites**

Hohe Warte Local Training Area, Giessen area

Amberg Family Housing, Vilseck area

Pond Barracks, Vilseck area

Blink Family Housing, Bremerhaven area

Darby Kaserne, Nuernberg area

Edingen Radio Receiver Facility, Heidelberg area

Gruenstadt Communication Station, Mannheim area

Osterfelderstrasse Housing Area

(partial return of unaccompanied officer quarters), Garmisch

The return of installations is in keeping with the August 2004 presidential announcement to return divisional forces from Europe to the U.S. and EUCOM's Strategic Theater Transformation plan.

*Coordination with German officials was conducted prior to this announcement.*

# VFW Post 9334 offers gift of love for holidays

by ADRIANE FOSS

*Editor*

Vilseck VFW Post 9334 kicked off the holiday season by spreading Christmas cheer to the less fortunate.

The VFW members capped off a 10-year tradition Dec. 10 when they traveled to the Most, Czech Republic, to deliver toys and gifts to orphans and sick children at the Detsky Domov Orphanage and baby clinic.

"This really makes a difference because a lot of kids come from bad homes, some of them abusive, and especially around Christmastime, everybody should enjoy this time of year, get a piece of the pie," said James Dicks, president of Post 9334.

Dicks and approximately 10 family and VFW members made the three-hour trip to Most Dec. 10 and were treated to a holiday skit by the orphanage residents.

Afterwards, a VFW member dressed as Santa

talked with the children and handed out the gifts.

The evening ended with a holiday social hosted by the orphanage officials and attended by the VFW members.

The veterans stayed overnight in a hotel and traveled to the nearby baby clinic the following day to spend time with and distribute gifts to the children there.

"A lot of kids get a whole lot of stuff for Christmas, some kids get nothing," said Dicks about why he has been making the trip to the Czech Republic for a decade.

Dicks said the public is invited and encouraged to attend the annual trip. He said community members can see firsthand where their donations are going or simply enjoy the day's activities.

Post 9334 will also sponsor an Easter Egg Hunt for the orphanage in the spring.

To participate or for more information, call DSN 475-7441 or CIV 0171-710-6647, or e-mail [james\\_houston@yahoo.com](mailto:james_houston@yahoo.com).



One child at the Detsky Domov Orphanage is overcome by emotion after opening her box of gifts Dec. 10. VFW Post 9334 members have been collecting and distributing the holiday good to the Czech Republic orphanage for a decade.

photos by Paula Guzman



Santa talks with the children before handing out the gifts.



The orphans perform skits for the VFW.



The donations range from warm winter clothing to toys and games.



The donations were collected by the VFW and Grafenwoehr Torch Club before being wrapped and delivered.



Courtesy photo

Tony Smith, Tony Smith, and Hector Ramirez attend the holiday gala Dec. 21.

## Congregation shares Christmas

by Chaplain (Maj.) GAIL PORTER

*Hohenfels Family Life Chaplain*

Presents and smiles were the order of the day at the Parsberg Orphanage Dec. 21.

Thirty members of the Saint Michael's Catholic congregation from the Post Chapel at Hohenfels delivered presents to the 90 children at the orphanage.

This is a traditional parish activity which goes back several years.

A few weeks before Christmas, the children at the orphanage get to ask for what they would like to receive.

Members of the Catholic congregation

purchase the items themselves. Since the children live in houses of about eight children each, the toys are put in sacks according to living group.

Days before Christmas, the children perform their annual holiday gala for everyone at the orphanage, and members of the Catholic congregation attend.

At the end of the event, the members of the congregation give the sacks of presents to each group. Congregation member Amanda Hoffer, who attended this year's event, said it was great for her to see firsthand the generosity of the parish and the excitement of the kids at the orphanage.

## Hohenfels ICE League

### December 2006

Sunrise Lodge	45	0	1.000
Drivers Testing	22	0	1.000
Security Office (S2)	17	0	1.000
Property Book Office	16	0	1.000
Turnbull Library	16	0	1.000
CDC	6	0	1.000
EEO	5	0	1.000
Vet Clinic	5	0	1.000
Dining Facility (USAG Hohenfels)	4	0	1.000
Distribution Center (Official Mail)	3	0	1.000
In and Out Processing (CPF)	17	1	0.944
ACS	11	1	0.917
Education Center	5	1	0.833
Housing	7	2	0.778
Community Mail Room (CMR)	5	2	0.714
Bowling Center	3	2	0.600
CYS	9	6	0.600
The Zone (Club)	5	4	0.556
Community Activity Center (CAC)	6	5	0.545
Health Clinic	5	7	0.417
DoDDS	2	5	0.286
Gyms (Post & Fitness)	3	10	0.231
USAG-H HQ	2	7	0.222
Commissary	1	4	0.200
AAFES	2	12	0.143

## Hohenfels

# Welcome to 2007 ... and a year of change

**H**appy New Year everyone and welcome to 2007.

I am writing this before Christmas, and you are reading it after Christmas so I hope that you had a wonderful holiday, and I hope that I



got the new hockey skates that I put on my Christmas list again this year.

With a new year often comes many changes, and this year is no exception.

You will notice that the Box Bulletin is no longer a separate publication produced and distributed in Hohenfels. It is now a section of the Bavarian News. All of the things you previously enjoyed in the Box Bulletin (ICE League standings, honor roll lists, etc.) can now be enjoyed by reading the Hohenfels

page of the Bavarian News. Another change for the New Year is Hohenfels' town hall schedule.

We have received many suggestions that the town hall meeting would be better attended if it were conducted after the duty day.

On Jan. 18, we will conduct the town hall meeting at 5 p.m. in the CAC building. If attendance increases significantly with the later start time, we will make the change permanent.

The third and final change to be

discussed in this article is the movement of the high school basketball games to the post gym.

Due to the overwhelmingly large crowds that attended the Friday night games at the high school, we ran an experiment in December to see if the post gym would be a better venue. We received many positive comments on the move and have decided to make it permanent.

You will also notice a new color scheme in the gym the next time you attend a Friday night game.

The girls are undefeated, the boys are upsetting Division 1 and Division 2 schools routinely, and season tickets are free.

So come on out and join us for a great night of basketball Jan. 27 when the Tigers take on their arch rivals, Ansbach.

*Lt. Col. James Matheson  
Commander, U.S. Army  
Garrison Hohenfels*

## Employees honored during length of service ceremony

**Story and photo by GERRY ARBIOS**  
**USAG Hohenfels PAO**

If one were to ask what makes a garrison function, a likely response would be "the employees."

And that is exactly how U.S. Army Garrison Hohenfels Commander Lt. Col. James Matheson responded during the December Length of Service ceremony.

"Our civilian workforce continues to be the foundation for the success of our mission to support training and maintain a high standard

of quality of life," said Matheson.

During the ceremony, 83 employees were honored for 1,825 collective years of government service.

Many of the employees reached career milestones, including three who celebrated their 40<sup>th</sup> year of service: Georg Laube (Works Council), Bernhard Bruckmueller (DPW), and Josef Singer (DPW).

Siegfried Link (DPW) received his 35-year certificate of service.

Bruckmueller received special recognition during the ceremony. He began his career at

Hohenfels in 1966 as a supply clerk with DPW. After working as a requisition and purchasing clerk, he went on to become a supervisory supply technician at the Business, Operations and Integration Branch in DPW in 1988.

When Bruckmueller began his government service nearly a half-century ago, other notable events of 1966 included:

- the American president was Lyndon Johnson;

- the record of the year was A Taste of Honey by Herb Alpert and the Tijuana Brass;

■ the first direct-dial international call was made without operators' assistance;

■ and Walt Disney died.

During the ceremony, Matheson personally thanked Bruckmueller for his dedicated service.

(Singer and Laube did not attend the ceremony.)

"You are truly a testament to Army values and a fine example of the strength of our civilian workforce," said Matheson. "I commend you for all your contributions to the Hohenfels military community."

## Honorees:

Name	Organization	Years of Service	Name	Organization	Years of Service
BRUCKMUELLER, Bernhard	DPW, BO & I	40	KARL, Engelbert	JMRC, P/O Div	25
SINGER, Josef	DPW, B & G	40	KREUPL, Karl	DPW, B & G	25
LAUBE, Georg	WC	40	MERZ, Johann	JMRC, Airfield	25
LINK, Siegfried	DPW, ED	35	OTT, Werner	DES, PMO	25
LIEBL, Petra	USAG, Cmd Grp	30	VOEGELE, Michael	DPW, Env Div	25
SWITALLA, Paul	DOL, TMP	30	ZICHAUS, Michael	DOL, PBO	25
WITTL, Eduard	DPW, B & G	30	WORNOM, Mark J.	JMRC, ITACSS	25
LIEBL, Alois	DOL, TMP	30	AMANN, Darrell L.	MWR (NAF)	25
SCHARNBECK, Erich	MWR, Rec	30	WEIGERT, Anton	DPW, B & G	20
EICHENSEER, Konrad	DPW, B & G	30	ENDERLE, Armin	8530 <sup>th</sup> CSG	20
HAMMER, Edeltraud	USAG, S-1	25	HILTL, Reinhard	DES, Fire	20
LIEBL, Rupert	DPW, BO & I	25	ENGL, Josef	DPW, Utilities	20
SCHMIDT, Ottfried	DPW, Utilities	25	HOFMANN, Otto	DPW, B & G	20
MANHART, Horst	DPW, B & G	25	FRIEDL, Doris	DPW, Housing	20
SCHAAR, Siegfried	JMRC, P/O Div	25	LISTL, Heinrich	JMRC, Maint	20
GEISSEL, Alois	JMRC, Maint	25	EWELL, Stanley E.	DOL, Din Fac	20
BERGHOFER, Gerhard	DPW, B & G	25	HUBER, Lorenz	JMRC, Maint	15
GUTTENBERGER, Winfried	DOL, TMP	25	SOELLNER, Markus	JMRC, Maint	15
POEPPEL, Alfred	DPW, Utilities	25	BIEBERBACH, Wolfgang	8530 <sup>th</sup> CSG	15
PUCHTA, Markus	DOL, PBO	25	NIEBLER, Thomas	BASOPS Maint Ctr	15
REINDL, Johann	JMRC, Maint	25	FISAR, Peter	8530 <sup>th</sup> CSG	15
MEINDL, Oswald	JMRC, Maint	25	MIESBAUER, Gerd	8530 <sup>th</sup> CSG	15
NERB, Josef	USAG Graf, DOL	25	REISER, Werner	DPW, B & G	15
MEIER, Ludwig	7th Army, TSC	25	SCHMIDT, Georg	DPW, B & G	15
MEYER, Klaus-Dieter	DPW, B & G	25	WEIGERT, Ludwig	USAG Graf, DOL	15
LEITMEIER, Erich	DPW, Utilities	25	DENHARDT, Hartmut	8530 <sup>th</sup> CSG	15
BAUER, Peter	DOL, TMP	25	HAYES, Terry M.	JMRC, COB	15
PETER, Johann	DPW, B & G	25	ZIOLKOWSKI, Steven W.	JMRC, ITACSS	15
DORT, Helmut	69th Signal	25	CONYERS, Marty	DOL, Din Fac	15
HAUSER, Georg	JMRC, Maint	25	GADDY, Donald	USAG Graf, DOL	15
NENZ, Donald	DPW, B & G	25	GILLER, Margaret B.	Safety	15
WELTER, Hermann	JMRC, Maint	25	WILLIAMS, James A.	MWR (NAF)	15
BAUER, Georg	DPW, B & G	25	ACHHAMMER, Adolf	DPW, B & G	10
POEPPEL, Andreas	DPW, Utilities	25	EICHENSEER, Johannes	DPW, Utilities	10
SCHROEDER, Heinz	DPW, B & G	25	WURM, Christian	DPW, Utilities	10
KARL, Peter	DPW, Housing	25	DONHAUSER, Josef	DPW, Utilities	10
WITTMANN, Erwin	529th Ord Co, ASP # 2	25	SCHEUERER, Bernhard	DPW, Utilities	10
MEIER, Anton	JMRC, Maint	25	STEINHAUER, Johannes	DPW, Utilities	10
EICHENSEER, Heinrich	DPW, B & G	25	KERRES, Fritz	DES, Fire	10
BACHLER, Reinhard	DPW, BO & I	25	OJEDA, German	DPW, B & G	10
FROEHLICH, Reinhold	DPW, Env Div	25	CARTER II, Robert C.	MWR (NAF)	10
HEINZ, Manfred	DPW, Utilities	25			

## Five-day 'Hallo Hohenfels' orientation helps ease transition

**Story and photo by GARRY BARROWS**  
**Staff writer**

If you and your family have just arrived at Hohenfels, there is a lot of important information to be aware of.

There are so many things to enjoy and facilities and services to help make your transition to Bavaria, Germany, a pleasant one that the Army Community Service has created a fun and informative five-day newcomer orientation called Hallo Hohenfels.

Day One features personal one-on-one briefings that highlight the schools, housing, Community Mail Room, military police, and other facilities. U. S. Army Garrison Hohenfels Commander Lt. Col. James Matheson wraps up the day's activities with a personal welcome and briefing on the installation's mission.

Participants enjoy a guided tour and lunch at the award winning 1-4 Dining Facility.

Day Two includes tours of the

health and dental clinics, Education Center, Arts & Craft Center, Yellow Ribbon Room, Self Help, PX, Commissary, and gym. The tours provide newcomers with basic information about post facilities and services and are designed to help ease family transition.

On Day Three, participants learn about ACS workshops, events, and programs, including employment availabilities and a review of retirement investment options.

Day Four includes a trip to the local off-post community. Before boarding the Hallo Hohenfels tour van, attendees take the first of two sessions of Survival German—an introduction to the unique cultural aspects of this area of Bavaria.

Then it's off to neighboring Parsberg, a town of approximately 3,000 inhabitants. While many aspects of the Hallo Hohenfels courses vary slightly, the shopping trips are always a constant. A trip to a large home décor and furniture store

is a favorite for the newly arrived participants. Day Four ends with traditional Bavarian cuisine at a local Gasthaus.

"I made a lot of friends during the week," said Hallo Hohenfels participant Lori Starnes. "I really enjoyed the whole week. It provided me with so many answers (that) I was then able to share with the rest of the family and other friends."

Day Five includes a 45-minute train trip to Regensburg, a city of 125,000. The trip helps newcomers navigate the German rail system so they won't have to figure it out on their own.

One of the Day Five destinations is the Arcadian Mall, a vibrant modern shopping center with a huge selection of stores and products that will prove that while in Germany, there are very few things you will have to do without.

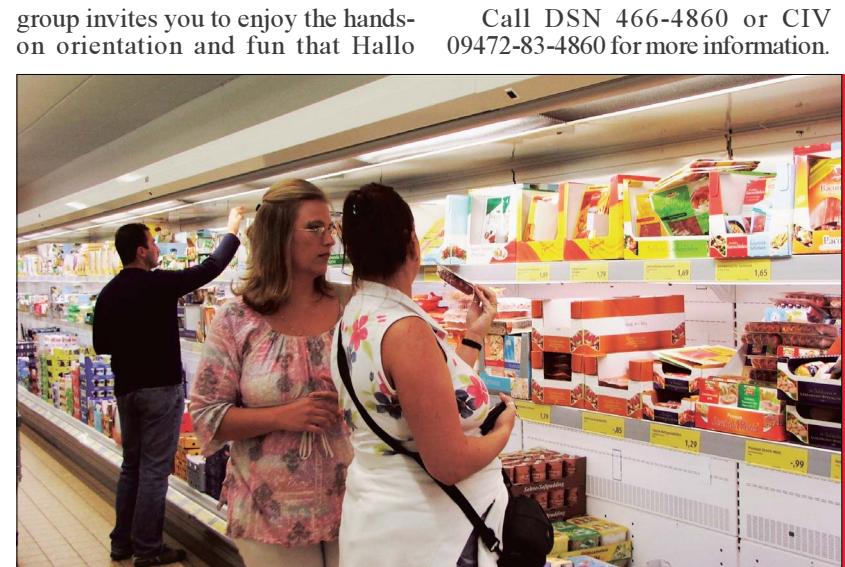
Free child care is available to Hallo Hohenfels participants. Parents must register by the deadline, so make sure

to sign up early.

ACS and the Hohenfels command group invites you to enjoy the hands-on orientation and fun that Hallo

Hohenfels has to offer. Classes are scheduled Jan. 22-26 and Feb. 5-9.

Call DSN 466-4860 or CIV 09472-83-4860 for more information.



Orientation participants visit on and off post facilities and stores, including shopping trips to grocery, home decor, and furniture stores.

# Community Spotlight

# What's Happening

## Grafenwoehr/ Vilseck Briefs

### New Sports Bar now open

The new MWR Sports Bar is now open in Vilseck's Langenbruck Center Complex, Bldg. 607.

Operating hours will be:

- Tuesday & Wednesday: 4:30 p.m. – midnight
- Thursday: 3:30 p.m. – 1 a.m.
- Friday & Saturday: 6 p.m. – 1 a.m.
- Sunday & Monday: Closed

For more information, call DSN 476-2360 or CIV 09662-83-2360.

### Vilseck Skate Night resumed

The next Skate Night is scheduled Jan. 26 from 6:30 – 8 p.m. for kindergarten through fifth grade students only.

Skate the night away and have some fun with friends at the Vilseck SAS (Bldg. 2237). There will be games, music, and skating limbo.

Children must be registered with CYS to attend. There are a limited number of skates, so children may bring their own. Cost is \$3 per child.

### Off-post Christmas tree pick up schedule set

Place your tree with its disposal ticket at your curbside in off post housing areas in Grafenwoehr and Eschenbach no later than Saturday at 8 a.m.

**DISPOSAL TICKET:** All banks in Grafenwoehr and Eschenbach are selling disposal ticket's for 1.50 Euro. Please remove all decorations from trees.

For more information, call DSN 475-7144.

### Grafenwoehr Library kicks off Mind & Body program

The Mind & Body program is designed for middle school students (grades 6-8) and will begin today.

Mind and Body will meet every second and fourth Wednesday of each month from 3:30-4:30 p.m.

A creative writing and movement program designed to interest middle school-age students in creative expression, and athletic and non-athletic movement.

It will offer visualization, yoga, word exercises, and other activities to expand creativity.

Stop by Grafenwoehr Bldg. 445 or call DSN 475-1740 / CIV 09641-83-1740 for more information.

### NSPS topic of mandatory town hall meetings Jan. 17

The NSPS town hall meetings are set Jan. 17 at the Grafenwoehr Tower Theater.

1st Session: 10 a.m. - noon

2nd Session: 1-3 p.m.

Attendance at one of the above sessions is required for:

- All IMCOM General Schedule (GS) employees
- Appropriated Funds (AF) employees
- Local National supervisors of IMCOM GS AF employees
- Military supervisors of IMCOM GS AF employees
- Non-Appropriated Funds (NAF) supervisors of IMCOM GS AF employees

This NSPS briefing is also open to all other employees.

### JMTC OCS Soldier packets due no later than Feb. 7

The 7th U.S. Army Joint Multinational Training Command Officer Candidate School Board will be conducted Feb. 22 at 9 a.m. in Bldg. 621, 1st floor.

Soldier packets are due to the G1 no later than Feb. 7.

Ensure all packets are thoroughly reviewed prior to submission.

### Meter readings set in Vilseck, Grafenwoehr leased housing

Through the end of January, the electricity supplier EnBW (Energie Baden Wuerttemberg) will conduct annual meter readings in the Grafenwoehr and Vilseck GHRP and leased housing areas.

The personnel will have identification cards, which will show that they are from the electricity supplier EnBW.

Please provide them access to your

electricity meter.

### IACS Office has new hours

The Grafenwoehr IACS Office, Bldg. 244, has new hours: 7 a.m. - 4 p.m.

The Vilseck office (Bldg. 700) hours will not change (7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.).

### Community Antiterrorism meeting slated Jan. 17

The meeting is scheduled for 1:30 p.m. in Yesterday's at Vilseck.

The purpose of the meeting is to discuss antiterrorism and force protection issues within the community.

Every agency, tenant unit, and directorate is required to provide a representative. The meeting is chaired by the garrison commander.

### Are you separating or retiring from the Army soon?

Vilseck's Army Career and Alumni Program (Bldg. 222, Rm. 9) can help you in making career decisions.

ACAP services include the mandatory pre-separation brief, transition assistance workshop, resume classes, job assistance training, and individual counseling.

Spouses are also eligible for ACAP services. Call Sonya or Rae at DSN 476-2055 today.

### Yoga classes now available at Grafenwoehr fitness center

Classes, featuring Astanga Vinyasa with Claudia, are Tuesdays and Thursdays at 6 p.m. and cost \$45 for a six-week session.

Sign up at the Physical Fitness Center. For more information, call DSN 475-9007 / CIV 09641-83-9007.

### MWR bowling tournaments set in Grafenwoehr, Vilseck

■ **Saturday-Sunday:** Vilseck Bowling Center, Martin Luther King weekend, 9 Pin, No Tap, \$15 entry fee.

■ **Jan. 24:** 7 p.m., Vilseck Bowling Center, 40-Frame Game Tournament, \$20 entry fee.

■ **Jan. 28:** 11 a.m., Grafenwoehr Bowling Center "Brunswick King of the Hill," Open to all, \$40 entry fee.

### Hip Hop & Street Jazz dance classes begins for adults

■ 1st session: Jan. 18 – Feb. 23

■ 2nd session: March 1 – April 5

■ 3rd session: April 12 – May 17

Classes are held Thursdays at 7 p.m. Register at the Rose Barracks Fitness Center, Bldg. 323.

Classes will be held at Bldg. 221. For information, call DSN 476-2998/2214.

### Diesel fuel available on post

Diesel fuel is now available for purchase at the Vilseck Shopette / Gas

Station (pumps 5 and 6).

Customers are asked to pay for their fuel and move their vehicles before shopping to avoid delays at the pumps.

### Hand written ration cards no longer accepted

AAFES and Commissary stores will no longer accept hand written ration cards. The data must be stamped or typed according to USAREUR Policy 600-702.

Renew your ration card with your unit ration representative immediately to continue to purchase rationed items.

*This applies to all active duty military personnel, DOD civilians and family members with a valid USAREUR ration card for use at AAFES and Commissary facilities in the USAG Grafenwoehr footprint.*

Call your local U.S. Forces Customs Office at DSN 476-2105 for more information.

### ACAP event schedule

**Feb. 6:** Pre-separation brief in Hohenfels , 9-10:30 a.m.

**March 6-7:** TAP workshop in Hohenfels, 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

**Jan. 23-24, Feb. 27-28, and March 20-21:** TAP workshops in Vilseck, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**Feb. 6 and March 13:** Resume workshops in Vilseck, 9 a.m. to noon.

**VA briefings** from 8 a.m. to noon\* in Hohenfels on Jan. 30 and March 14; in Vilseck on Jan. 31, March 15, and April 19; and on Grafenwoehr on May 16.

#### ■ Locations

**Hohenfels:** Pre-separation brief, TAP workshop and VA brief are all held in the battalion classroom in 1-4 Headquarters, Bldg. 856.

**Vilseck:** Pre-separation brief, TAP workshop, and resume workshop are held in ACAP Bldg. 222. The VA brief is held in the Rose Barracks Theater.

**Grafenwoehr:** The VA brief is held in the Post Theater.

Please call Vilseck ACAP at DSN 476-2055 to make reservations for these events.

\* Additional individual appointments are available to speak with VA representatives from 1-3 p.m. by reservation only. Call DSN 476-2055 to schedule.

### Get your specialty coffees

Get your specialty coffee at the Smoothie Zone located in the Vilseck Fitness Center. Warm up with a mocha, caramel, hazel nut or raspberry cappuccino. For non-coffee drinkers, there is green tea and hot chocolate.

### Call the inclement weather hotline for road conditions

■ Grafenwoehr: DSN 475-ROAD (7623) or CIV 09641-83-7623

■ Vilseck: DSN 476-3999 or CIV 09662-83-3999.

**Girl Scout Cookie Sales start Jan 10.**

**When:** After school and All weekends

**Where:** Commissary, PX, Warrior Hill Shopette, & Albertshof Shopette

Your purchase can help send a Girl Scout to camp, provide her with leadership opportunities and support so many other girl programs and initiatives. As you purchase your favorite Girl Scout Cookies this year, be sure to take the opportunity to show your support for American soldiers by donating an additional box so that military women and men can enjoy the sweet and tasty sensations of Girl Scout Cookies so far away from home. **More than a hundred thousand boxes were sent to service members in 2006!** Let's show our Armed Forces how much we care about them again this year.

Hohenfels Girl Scout Downrange Counter: 2006 - We sent 680 boxes! 2007 goal: 1000 boxes!

POC: Andrea Neill at fab5neills@yahoo.com or (09472) 911-691

## Hohenfels

### Briefs

#### Cub Scouts seeking first through fifth graders

It is not too late to join in the Cub Scouting fun! There is room for first through fifth graders.

For more information, visit [www.geocities.com/cubscoutsinhohenfels.hohenfels](http://www.geocities.com/cubscoutsinhohenfels.hohenfels).

If you cannot find what you are looking for at the Pack 303 site, contact Andrea Neill at [cubscoutsinhohenfels@yahoo.com](mailto:cubscoutsinhohenfels@yahoo.com).

#### Enjoy cultural exchange with Hohenfels' Kontakt

Kontakt Hohenfels is a German-American (and other international members) friendship club with fun events, recreation, education, community service, and networking opportunities.

It's a cultural exchange club for meeting new people and learning about another culture and language, based upon respect and tolerance without regard to differences in race, politics, religion, or ideology.

Kontakt is for people of all ages who care about working to develop international cultural relations. The club needs individual members who are willing to work and contribute ideas, skills, time, and talents while growing with the opportunities.

If you have questions about any of the events or club membership, contact the public affairs liaison at DSN 466-4294 or CIV 09472-83-4294.

#### FRG child care relief

The CDC (Bldg. 44) will offer evening child care for FRG meetings on the second Wednesday of every month from 6 - 8 p.m.

To reserve a space, contact your FRG leader today.

#### Free training offered on "Computer Thursdays"

The Turnbull Memorial Library will offer free computer classes every Thursday during the month of January.

Learn new skills or brush up on old ones. Classes include:

**Jan. 4 - Basic Computer & Internet Skills**

**Jan. 11 - Microsoft Word**

**Jan. 18 - Microsoft Excel**

**Jan. 25 - Microsoft PowerPoint**

Call DSN 466-1740 for information.

#### Smoothie Zone open again

The Smoothie Zone at Hohenfels' Post Gym is open again. Hours of operation have changed to Monday through Friday, 11:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.

"Start your child's education off right"

# Jump Start Your Smarts

program

**Jump Start Your Smarts** is a 20 week pilot program that focuses on bridging the gap between Preschool and Kindergarten. The program will be offered on Tuesdays and Thursdays and will teach children a variety of skills to include, reading and writing, hands on science exploration, and beginner math.

Let **Jump Start Your Smarts** make a difference in your child's development. Program begins January 9th.

For more information, available slots or fees contact the Hohenfels CLEOS at DSN 466-2078. For more information on program curriculum contact the CDC at DSN 466-4706.

#### Chaplain Happenings

■ Tonight from 6-8 p.m., the monthly evening program for the Protestant Women of the Chapel will be held. It's a "Laid Back Night" to snack, have fellowship, play board games, and relax after the holidays. The POC is Chaplain Baumann at DSN 466-1570 or CIV 09472-831570. Child care is provided for children ages 0-5 years.

■ The next **Moms Lunch** is Tuesday at The Zone. Child care is provided for children ages 0-5 years old. Lunch is complementary. Come, share, and learn. The POC is Chaplain Porter at DSN 466-4795 or CIV 09472-834795.

■ After the mass on Jan. 28, the Catholic Youth will hold a **pancake breakfast**. This is the beginning of fund raising for their attendance at the 2008 World Youth Day celebration in Sydney, Australia. The breakfast will be held in the room to the right side of the main sanctuary at the Main Post Chapel.

■ On Feb. 2, the Catholic Women of the Chapel will host a **First Friday Program** starting at 9:30 a.m. at the Hilltop Chapel Center.

They begin at the Hilltop Chapel Center for rosary and a breakfast potluck followed by a presentation. They conclude the program at noon at the Main Post Chapel for First Friday Mass. All are welcome to join us and watch care is provided.

■ Child care is provided for children aged 0-5 years at the weekly meeting of the **Protestant Women of the Chapel** each Tuesday morning at the Hilltop Chapel Center from 9 to 11:30 a.m. Come enjoy fellowship, food, and bible study. The POC is Chaplain Baumann at DSN 466-1570 or CIV 09472-831570.

# Army, Marine Corps release new counterinsurgency field manual

*State Dept., troops, CIA gave feedback for FM 3-24*

by JIM GARAMONE  
American Forces Press Service

"Learn" and "adapt" are the key messages of the new Army and Marine Corps Counterinsurgency Field Manual, which just hit the streets.

The Counterinsurgency Field Manual, FM 3-24 and Marine Corps Warfighting Publication 3-33.5, is a unique joint effort between the Army and Marines to put in place doctrine to help operators as they face the challenges of asymmetric warfare.

The manual codifies an important lesson of insurgencies: it takes more than the military to win.

## More than lethal operations

"There are more than just lethal operations involved in a counterinsurgency campaign," said Conrad Crane, director of the U.S. Army Military History Institute, in Carlisle, Pa., and one of the leaders of the effort.

He said the team working on the manual decided early on to emphasize the interagency aspect of counterinsurgency fights.

"The military is only one piece of the puzzle," Crane said. "To be successful in a counterinsurgency, you have to get contributions from a lot of different agencies, international organizations, non-governmental organizations and host-nation organizations. There are so

many people involved to make counterinsurgency successful."

All of these organizations bring important weapons to the campaign, "and you've got to bring unity of effort if you can to make it effective," he said.

Lt. Col. Lance McDaniel, a branch head at the Marine Corps Combat Development Center at Quantico, Va., said the manual is aimed at battalion-level officers and NCOs, but felt that all who read it could gain some insight into the difficulties of a counterinsurgency war.

"We see this being part of the pre-deployment training units undergo," McDaniel said. "Once on the ground they can adapt the ideas from the manual to their particular location and enemy."

The Army and Marine Corps have shared field manuals in the past, but this is the first on which the two services worked closely to write, both Crane and McDaniel said.

## A half-million editors

"This was a real team effort of Army and Marine writers," Crane said. "What I tell people is we had about 20 primary writers on the manual and about 600,000 editors."

Crane said many Soldiers and Marines commented on the manual and provided input to the final product. "We received more than 1,000 comments from people actually doing the mission," he said.

But it didn't stop with military feedback. State Department employees, CIA officials, academic experts and representatives of the international human rights community

contributed insights to the manual, McDaniel said.

"I hope the publication will make it easier for other agencies and organizations to work with us," he said.

## Campaign design

Chapter 4, a discussion on Campaign Design, is a unique aspect of the manual. "The Marines brought that to the manual," Crane said.

Before beginning a campaign, planners must identify the problem that needs solving, then be ready to change the plan as conditions change on the ground, Crane said. "In counterinsurgency, that is so important because it is a complex situation," he said.

A counterinsurgency campaign is much more complex than a traditional military-on-military conflict. The make-up of the community, the needs of the various groups, the history of the area, traditional allies in the region, and many other things contribute to understanding how to design a counterinsurgency campaign.

"It takes a lot more analysis before you jump into it, because if you do the wrong thing, it could have major implications," Crane said. "You have to be sure you are applying the right solution to the right problem."

Crane said the idea of campaign design will probably permeate other Army field manuals.

## Real-world examples

The new counterinsurgency manual uses examples from fighting in Afghanistan and Iraq, but also uses examples from the Napoleonic War,

the U.S. experience in Vietnam, and counterinsurgency efforts in the Philippines, Malaya (now Malaysia) and South America.

Crane and McDaniel agree that insurgencies are the wars of the future. The idea of a nation taking on the United States army to army or navy to navy is remote, given the U.S. conventional expertise.

"Enemies will make us fight these kinds of wars until we get them right," Crane said. "Then they'll switch."

The manual is informed by Afghanistan and Iraq, but also informed by history, Crane said. "We tried to glean what was useful from the historical record, but also with the realization that there are a lot of things that are new out there, Crane said. "Trying to grapple with the nature of contemporary insurgency was one of the toughest parts of writing it."

## A manual for the future

The manual is not limited to operations in Iraq and Afghanistan.

"If we've created a manual that is just good for Iraq and Afghanistan, we've failed," he said. "This thing has got to be focused on the future and the next time we do this."

The manual is going to be useful in Iraq and Afghanistan, but much of what the manual covers is already being done in those theaters. "The manual is future-focused," Crane said. "The manual gives you the tools to do your analysis and the guidelines to apply it with the understanding that every situation is going to be unique."

It also will be rewritten, as needed, the men said. Both men said the manual is receiving a good reception. "This is not a doctrine that is being jammed down peoples' throats," Crane said. "This is a doctrine that they are demanding."

# AFTB marks 12<sup>th</sup> year as Army program

Continued from Page 1

eases the stress by familiarizing new family members with the military, its acronyms, (and) traditions."

AFTB volunteer Program Manager Beth Rote invites community members to sign up for one of more than 40 classes the program offers. The classes, which are offered in three levels, include introduction for new spouses and leadership training for seasoned spouses interested in volunteering.

**In Level I** you will learn the Army. It is mainly intended for spouses and family members who are new to the military community. Classes include:

- Expectations and Impact of the Mission on Family Life
- Military Acronyms and Terms
- Chain of Command, and
- Introduction to Military Customs and Courtesies

**Level II** provides participants with management experience to help them develop personal skills and make everyday life easier.

Classes include:

- Conflict Management
- Time Management
- Stress Management
- Crisis and Coping, and
- Communication

**Level III** is leadership training and is intended to train spouses to take leadership roles in the community. Classes include:

- Leadership Skills
- Motivating Factors
- Building a Cohesive Team, and
- How to Develop Presentations

For those who are unable to attend classes due to work or other reasons, online courses are offered at [www.myarmylifetoo.com](http://www.myarmylifetoo.com). Levels I & II are also offered in Spanish.

Rote, who has been involved with AFTB since 1996, said that her volunteer experience with AFTB has been extremely rewarding and invites the community to volunteer their time with the AFTB team.

Instructor training is held twice a year. Upon completion, volunteers are eligible to teach levels I-III.

## Upcoming AFTB Classes:

- Jan. 16-17 Level I
- Jan. 22-24 Level III
- Feb. 6-7 Level I
- Feb. 21-23 Level II
- March 6-7 Level I
- March 19-21 Level III

For more information on classes or volunteer opportunities, call DSN 475-2797 or CIV 09662-83-2792.

To register for an AFTB class, call Army Community Services at DSN 475-2650 or CIV 09662-83-2650.

# VAT cost, procedure remains same

Continued from Page 1

"There has been a steady increase in (processing) cost over the years, but we haven't had an increase in our VAT forms in more than five years," he said. "And, if there is a fee structure change in the works, I'm not aware of it at this time."

Another misconception is that forms bought prior to the 19 percent increase must either have been used or tuned in by Jan. 1.

Ross said previously purchased forms are still good until the expiration date.

The VAT relief is a privilege under the Status of Forces Agreement. There are two types of VAT Forms for goods and services of 2,500 Euro or less, and those exceeding 2,500 Euro.

UTAP saves eligible individuals the value added tax associated with delivery of utilities such as electricity and gas.

Under the direction of the U.S. European Command, the Installation Management Command-Europe is responsible for VAT and UTAP operations in Germany.

Germany's value added tax increase on Jan. 1 is the largest in four decades, reported the International Herald Tribune. The portal for the German Federal Government stated that the Ermäßigte Steuersatz or reduced tax on water, medical supplies and other services will remain at seven percent.

For details, call your local VAT Office.

# Cards to replace fuel coupons in fiscal 2008 in Germany

Continued from Page 1

No more than five drivers will be authorized to purchase fuel for that vehicle.

Now nearing the end of the planning phase, the fuel-card program is expected to take 10 to 12 months to develop.

Testing is scheduled to start in September. The German government must then approve the fuel-card system before it can be implemented.

AAFES expects the first group of cards to be mailed to eligible personnel in March 2008.

"Once implemented, the automated fuel card program will allow authorized personnel to purchase tax- and duty-free gasoline in Germany," McKinney said.

"At the same time, the fuel card program will provide a more efficient method to prevent tax-fraud," he said.

## Hospital Guided Tours



Don't miss the informational tour to get acquainted with the hospital staff, view the labor/delivery rooms, nursery, and maternity ward.

**Klinikum Weiden Tour**  
**Wednesday, Jan. 17 at 6 p.m.**  
**Group meets in lobby 10 minutes before the tour**

Call ACS to sign up!  
In Vilseck: CIV 09662 83 2650  
In Grafenwoehr: CIV 09641 83 8371

**Look for the Bavarian News online at [www.milcom.de](http://www.milcom.de)**

# Hoops for Troops help wounded vets rebound

by JOHN KRUZEL

American Forces Press Service

The America Supports You program highlights support for U.S. military members and their families.

"Hoops for Troops" brought 14 wounded veterans from Walter Reed Army Medical Center to dine at the Verizon Center's Acela Club with former National Basketball Association players and sit in skybox suites to watch the Washington Wizards beat the Miami Heat 106-92 Dec. 15.

Basketball players are performers, but U.S. service members are the real heroes, Gilbert Arenas, the Wizards point guard who scored

27 points in Washington's victory, told American Forces Press Service.

"They're out there fighting; we're out there entertaining," Arenas said. "So when (troops) show up to games, we show our support."

The visitors' locker room was quiet after Miami's loss, and Heat center Shaquille O'Neal shied away from reporters' basketball questions.

But O'Neal, whose father served in the U.S. Army during Shaquille's childhood, told American Forces Press Service of his gratitude for U.S. service members.

"I think it's good for people to want to protect the country," O'Neal said. "Yesterday I met three or four

amputees who said they want to go back. Those are the guys I want protecting our country."

Army Capt. Keith Bracey worked as a Wizards team assistant until he was deployed in 2002.

During active duty in Iraq, Bracey was injured when his Humvee was ambushed in Baghdad in 2003. When he returned to the U.S., the Wizards welcomed him home.

"People here heard that I had gotten hurt," Bracey said, "so I started working with some of the team doctors

and physical therapists to try to get better.

Mentally, it's a big part of the recovery); it's like a big family here."

Navy

Adm. Edmund P. Giambastiani, vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, was on hand to thank troops and NBA participants.

"It is spectacular what they do for our soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines, and for our wounded troops in particular," Giambastiani said, referring to USA Basketball and the NBA.

"You go to any base anywhere in the world you see the troops following these professional sports," he said. "Basketball has been very supportive of this, and we just can't thank them enough."

Army Capt. D.J. Skelton was a platoon leader in the 25th Infantry

Division in Fallujah, Iraq.

He lost his left eye and suffered other injuries in a rocket-propelled-grenade attack.

He was one of the wounded veterans in attendance at the game.

"Both the military and the teams that represent the United States share that patriotism," Skelton said. "They're representing this country, but they're doing it from two different mechanisms.

"When basketball players, who almost live in a world among themselves, ... come down and put themselves on the same level as soldiers, ... it just solidifies the fact that this country really does appreciate what soldiers do," Skelton said.

But the partnership between USA Basketball and America Supports You extends far beyond U.S. boundaries, Kim Bohuney, vice president of NBA Basketball Operations International, said.

"Any time an NBA or WNBA player goes abroad, we always ask them, 'Would you mind stopping by to see our men and women (in uniform)?"' Bohuney said.

NBA and WNBA players who have visited military hospitals and bases around the world have always loved the experience, she said.

Seven-foot-7-inch former NBA player Gheorghe Muresan has visited with U.S. troops serving in his home country, Romania, and frequently attends Wizards games with Walter Reed patients.

"We do the best we can to help them forget their pain and be happy and enjoy themselves," Muresan said. "They give part of their lives to save us, ... so we give as much as we can to them."

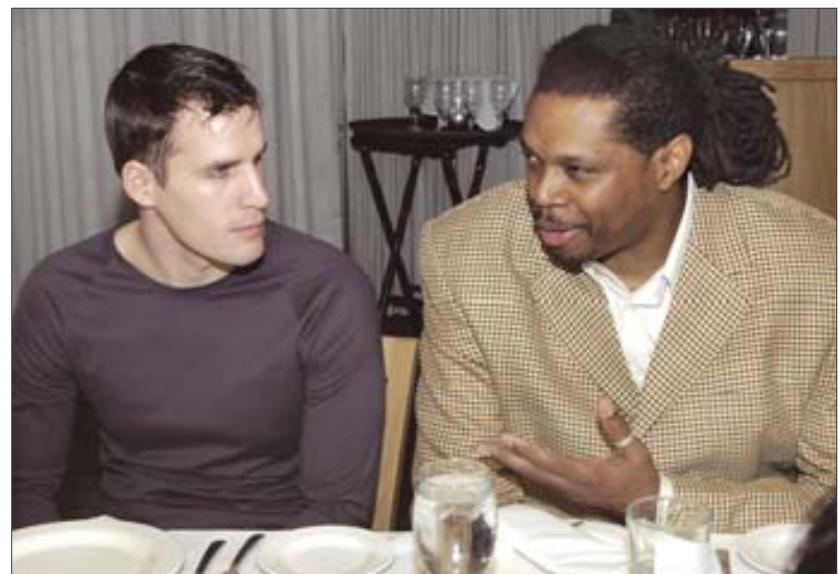


Photo by Carmen L. Burgess

Former U.S. Olympic basketball player Sam Perkins (right) chats with Army Capt. Scott Smiley before the Washington Wizards and Miami Heat basketball game in Washington Dec. 15. The NBA hosted several wounded warriors, including Smiley, at the game as part of Hoops for Troops, an America Supports You program.

## Sports Briefs

### Winter bowling leagues begin

Grafenwoehr:

Jan. 8, 6 p.m., Monday Night Mixed  
Today, 11 a.m., Wednesday Women's  
Jan. 12, 6 p.m., Friday Night Trio  
Jan. 4, 9:30 a.m., Thursday Morning  
Women's League  
Jan. 11, 6 p.m., Thursday Night Mixed  
Jan. 18, 3:30 p.m., Unit Level Intramural  
League  
Jan. 20, 11 a.m., Youth League

Vilseck:

Grafenwoehr, Bldg. 612, DSN 475-6177 CIV 09641-83-6177

Vilseck, Bldg. 2201, DSN 476-2576 CIV 09662-83-2576.

### G/A Indoor Soccer Tournaments

Jan. 14, 21 and 28 at 9 a.m.: Open to everyone on Grafenwoehr: family members, Soldiers, DA civilians and local nationals.

At the Grafenwoehr Field House, Bldg. 547, \$75 / 75 Euro per tournament / per team (10 players and 1 non-playing coach).

For more information, call Mike Bradfish at DSN 475-9024/9007.

### Community level basketball: Don't miss the Graf vs. Ansbach home game

Jan. 28: Come out and support the men's and women's teams. The women play at 1 p.m. with the men following immediately afterwards (app. 3 p.m.).

At the Grafenwoehr Physical Fitness Center, Bldg. 170.

For information, contact Mike Bradfish at DSN 475-9024/9007.

### USAG Graf unit level basketball games

Mondays & Wednesdays in Vilseck: Games at 6 and 7 p.m.

Tuesdays & Thursdays in Grafenwoehr: Games at 6 and 7 p.m.

Games are held at the Memorial Fitness Center, Bldg. 616 (Vilseck) & Physical Fitness Center Bldg. 170 (Grafenwoehr).

Contact Carl Boothe (Vilseck, DSN 476-2214/2998) or Mike Bradfish (Graf, DSN 475-9024/9007) for information.

### Sports & Recreation Calendar of Events

- Boxing Team Registration, 1-31 Jan., USAG Grafenwoehr, Cmty/Invt., Graf/Rose Barracks
- Powerlifting Team Registration, 1-31 Jan., USAG Grafenwoehr, Cmty/Invt., Graf/Rose Barracks
- Skiing Championship, 27 Jan., USAG Grafenwoehr, Invitational, Grosser Arber
- Volleyball League Registration, 1-31 Feb., USAG Grafenwoehr, Unit Level, Graf/Rose Barracks
- Basketball Championship, 23-25 Feb., USAG Grafenwoehr, Unit Level, Grafenwoehr

### High school soccer referee clinic slated

The Kaiserslautern Officials Association will hold a National Federation of High Schools Officials clinic Feb. 3 from 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. at the Landstuhl Learning Center, Bldg. 3718 in Landstuhl, Germany.

The clinic is free and will consist of classroom work, the NFHS 2007 test and field evaluations. Attendance at the clinic and passing the NFHS test are required to officiate DODDS High School soccer games beginning in March.

Contact Mike Donohue at DSN 370-6763 or mike.donohue@ima-e.army.mil or Gerd Backhaus at DSN 484-8244 or gerd.backhaus@hq.21tsc.army.mil.

### Parents, students seeking to start up DoDDS high school baseball program

Baseball is one of the top three sports in the US. It is also a sport that isn't offered in DoDDS high schools in Europe.

A group of concerned parents and students are trying to show that there is a desire to play competitive baseball as a part of DoDDS High School athletic program.

Visit <http://www.bringbaseball-2-europe.com/>, password = playball and show your support. We respect your privacy and are committed to keeping your information protected.

Special to the Bavarian News

U.S. Army Garrison Hohenfels has started its Commander's Cup program.

If your unit is interested in participating, all you have to do to earn and receive points is register and participate in sports programs offered through MWR.

The different programs are as follows:

■ Intramural Unit Level programs are also known as Unit Level Team

Sports. Any participating unit needs to attend pre-season league meetings, i.e., coach meetings, and sports council meetings for upcoming sports programs.

■ Extramural team sports which are sports above intramural and are also known as community teams.

■ Individual sporting events attended with verification.

■ All Army programs offered. Registration and acceptance into the program.

■ Your final placing in our leagues will also earn points i.e.; 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place finishes as well as any advances to higher level competitions such as IMCOM Europe and your final placing at that level within the top three.

For more information, contact a Hohenfels sports professional at:

**Post Gym** DSN 466-2883

**Olympia Fitness Center** DSN 466-

2726

**Sports Programmer** DSN 466-2868.

**Congratulations to William Jones, who bowled a perfect score at Hohenfels' Lane 17 Bowling Center Dec. 4, 2006 !!!**

# Don't count on making correct number translations without a bit of practice

by MARTINA BIAS  
Bavarian News Food & Culture columnist

**A**s 2007 begins, we have once again to contend with one of the hardest things about the start of a new year—remembering to write the correct year on our checks and correspondence.

This is also a good opportunity to familiarize yourself with the way Germans write their dates.

Unlike the many English variations, (May 4, May 4th, 4<sup>th</sup> of May, etc.), the abbreviated form of German dates has only one correct form.

Germans always write the date starting with the smallest unit (day), followed by the next larger unit (month), and ending with the largest one (year).

A proper German date would look like this: 4. Mai 2007. This poses no problem as long as the month is written out, but when you use only numbers, it can get quite confusing, especially if the numbers are small.

For example, Americans are likely to think a letter with the date 03.02.07 translates to March 2, while Germans would read the date as Feb. 3.



The way the numbers **one** and **seven** are written is just one of several differences in the way Germans and Americans deal with numbers.

Although Germany uses the same numerals as English, they are written in a slightly different way. The main differences are found in the numbers one and seven.

The German number **one** consists not only of a straight vertical line, but also a second line slanting down diagonally to the left. The German number **seven** is always crossed with a horizontal bar.

The bar makes it look a little like the capital letter F and is what distinguishes it from the number one.

Another difference is how Germans write numbers with decimals and larger numbers. Instead of decimal points, Germans use a decimal comma. To indicate larger numbers, Germans use a period or a space every three digits.

Here are two examples to illustrate this point:

**American:** \$3,462,765.00

**German:** \$3.462.765,00 or \$ 3 462 765,00

The one difference I still struggle with is the order in which Germans and Americans say their numbers.

Numbers one through 20 are fairly simple, and the order is the same for German and English (13 is dreizehn, 14 is vierzehn, etc.) The trouble begins with numbers after 20.

Americans continue the count as twenty-one, twenty-two, etc., while Germans begin the

count as one-and-twenty, two-and-twenty, and so on.

This flip-flop requires you to think before you say a higher number, as I found out on my first job in the United States.

I was working at a hotel front desk and at the end of a tiring day I sent a guest to an already occupied room after I got the numbers backwards in my head. Fortunately, there was no harm done. He simply returned to the front desk and informed me that he had no intention of sharing the room with the guest who had already checked in.

Finally, to top off the German-American number confusion, the vocabulary gets a bit dicey when you count above one million.

While the German and American "million" are the same amount, the American "billion" is called "Milliarde" in German, and the German "Billion", equals the American "trillion."

Happy New Year, and think before you count!

Have you ever wondered why Germans do certain things? I welcome your questions and comments. E-mail me at [martina.bias@us.army.mil](mailto:martina.bias@us.army.mil), and I may be able to address your suggestions in a future column.

## Celery's cousin makes sensational soup

by MARTINA BIAS  
Bavarian News Food & Culture columnist

If you are one of the countless people who have made eating healthier one of your New Year's resolutions, the following recipe will help you accomplish just that.

It involves a new twist on an old favorite vegetable and makes a delicious creamy German soup.

Everyone knows celery as the light green stalks with the big crunch, but my children were surprised when I presented them with German Sellerie, a round and brown colored bulb with white flesh.

This veggie is known as "celeriac", a turnip-rooted celery or knob celery to some Americans, and has the same distinct flavor as its green cousin.

The root is used when it is about 10-12 centimeters in diameter or the size of a large potato. Germans most commonly use it to make a Selleriesalat (celery salad), or prepare it in pureed soups or hearty vegetable stews.

The following soup is a favorite with my family. The kids especially enjoy the cheese croutons.

Guten Appetit!



### Selleriesuppe mit Käsekroutons (Celery soup with cheese croutons)

1 large celeriac (about 1 ½ lbs.)  
3 small or 2 medium potatoes  
2 bay leaves  
5 Tbs. butter or margarine  
5 cups vegetable broth  
3 slices white bread  
½ - ¾ cup finely shredded Emmentaler (Swiss cheese)  
1 tsp. seasoned salt  
½ cup fat-free half & half

Peel celeriac and potatoes and cut both into cubes. Heat 3 Tbs. of butter or margarine in a large pot and sauté celeriac and bay leaves for a few minutes, stirring constantly. Add potatoes and broth. Cover and simmer for 20 minutes or until veggies are tender.

In the meantime, cube white bread and fry in remaining butter until golden brown and crispy. Sprinkle with shredded cheese and stir to coat for one more minute. Set aside.

Remove bay leaves and puree soup. If you prefer a slight green color, stir in some chopped celery greens. Season to taste with seasoned salt. Stir in half & half. Serve topped with cheese-croutons.

Yield: 8 – 10 servings



Celeriac may be used raw or fresh. Germans most commonly use it to make a Selleriesalat (celery salad), or prepare it in pureed soups or hearty vegetable stews.

**PLRS Preliminary LOSS REPORTS**  
for the week of 28 Sept - 4 Oct 06

**5**  
SOLDIERS DIED IN ACCIDENTS

- 5 Soldiers injured
- 1 M1114 Damaged

► A Soldier died Oct. 3 from injuries he sustained in a motorcycle accident Oct. 1 at 1120 local in Daleville, Ala. The Soldier was operating a 2001 Suzuki TL1000 motorcycle at a high rate of speed when he crashed into a 1998 Buick LeSabre that pulled out in front of him against oncoming traffic to cross the median. The Soldier was licensed, had completed an Army-approved Motorcycle Safety Foundation Course, and was wearing the required PPE.  
**COST: 1 Soldier Killed**

► A Soldier was killed in a rollover accident Sept. 29 at about 2145 local near Camp Ashland, Neb. The Soldier was one of three passengers in a 2005 Chevrolet Trailblazer. The driver tried to pass a vehicle on the shoulder of the road at a high rate of speed and lost control of the vehicle, causing it to leave the road, roll and crash into a pole. The passenger was not wearing her seat belt and was thrown from the vehicle. The other occupants were wearing their seat belts and received minor injuries. The driver is facing charges, and the U.S. Army Combat Readiness Center is investigating the accident.  
**COST: 1 Soldier Killed  
2 Soldiers Injured**

► A Soldier was killed in a motorcycle accident Sept. 28 at 1850 local in Yelm, Wash. The Soldier was operating a 2006 Suzuki SV650K6 motorcycle at a high rate of speed in a 25 mph zone. After passing a vehicle in a no passing zone, the rider lost control of the motorcycle, went off the road and struck a tree. The Soldier was taken to a local medical facility.  
**COST: 1 Soldier Killed  
3 Soldiers Injured**

**Got RISK?**  
<https://crc.army.mil>

**own the EDGE**

Leading on the Edge

**UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON GRAFENWOERTH PRESENTS**

**REMEMBER! CELEBRATE! ACT!**

**Martin Luther King, Jr. HOLIDAY**

**"A DAY ON—NOT A DAY OFF"**

**16 JANUARY 2007**

**TOWERVIEW RESTAURANT**

**1130 - 1300**

**MENU SELECTION**

Smoked Ham Hocks in Collard Greens, baked Ham, Candied Yams, Corn on the Cob, Potato Salad, Cornbread, Sweet Potato Pie and Eugene's Banana Pudding Tea or Lemonade

**FOR TICKETS: SFC WARD 476-2292 SFC PORTER 475-8038 SFC MARIAKA 476-5035**

*Consistent with mission requirements, employees may attend without charge to annual leave.*